

## **2022 SBA Mississippi Young Entrepreneur of the Year**

To be considered a young entrepreneur, the individual must serve as a majority owner and operate or bear principal responsibility for operating a small business with a three-year track record, and who will not have reached the age of thirty by June 1, 2022.

### **What are the evaluation/selection criteria?**

In evaluating the nomination packages, the judges will look at the following criteria:

- 1) Business' staying power, growth in employees, increase in sales, improved financial position, and innovativeness of product or service offered;
- 2) Contributions to community— evidence of the use of his/her personal time and resources to contribute to its community;
- 3) Development and/or utilization of innovative or creative business methods; and
- 4) Demonstrated entrepreneurial potential necessary for long-term business success and economic growth.

### **Who is eligible to be nominated for this award?**

Nominees for this award must meet the following eligibility requirements. Consult your nearest SBA district office if you have questions.

- 1) Any legal resident of the United States or its Territories who owns and operates or who bears principal responsibility for operating a small business may be nominated. Partners who jointly own and operate a small business may be nominated as a "team," so long as the number of individuals in the team nomination does not exceed four (4).

### **Who is NOT eligible to be nominated for this award?**

- 1) Individuals or teams who own or operate a business defined as "other than small" (i.e. large businesses) for its primary industry under the applicable SBA size standards or
- 2) Individuals or firms who are currently suspended or debarred by the Federal government.

### **Who may submit nominations for this award?**

- 1) Individuals or organizations dedicated to the support of the small business community in the United States such as trade and professional associations and business organizations, may submit nominations.
- 2) Individuals may self-nominate.

### **Where are the nominations to be sent?**

All nominations must be submitted electronically to the U.S. Small Business Administration district office BOX account in the state or territory where the nominee is located. BOX account information is available at [www.sba.gov/nsbw](http://www.sba.gov/nsbw).

### **When is the deadline for nominations?**

3:00 p.m. ET, January 11, 2022.

### **What information must the nomination package contain?**

Nominations must contain the information below. Incomplete nomination packages will not be considered.

- 1) A completed background form (SBA Form 3300, Award Nominee Background Form) which is available at [www.sba.gov/nsbw](http://www.sba.gov/nsbw). For “team” nominations, a background form is required for each team member;
- 2) A completed nomination form (SBA Form 3315, District Office Award) which is available at [www.sba.gov/nsbw](http://www.sba.gov/nsbw);
- 3) An original 8” x 10” or 5” x 7” photo of the nominee or a digital photo – at least 300 dpi is required; photocopies are not acceptable. For “team” nominations, a photo of each nominee or group photo is acceptable.; and
- 4) Additional supporting documentation deemed significant by the nominator, including news clips, letters of recommendation, nomination letter (if not self-nominated) and other evidence of the appropriateness of the nomination. Supporting documentation must not exceed 10 pages. Videos will not be considered.

### **What are the selection procedures?**

The District Office Award will be selected by the appropriate District Director based on, but not restricted to, the recommendations of the panel of judges of federal or non-federal employees.